

# Genre Painting

## Description:

Children will learn how to tell a story through their art and how the art materials, or media, they choose can help them express an idea.

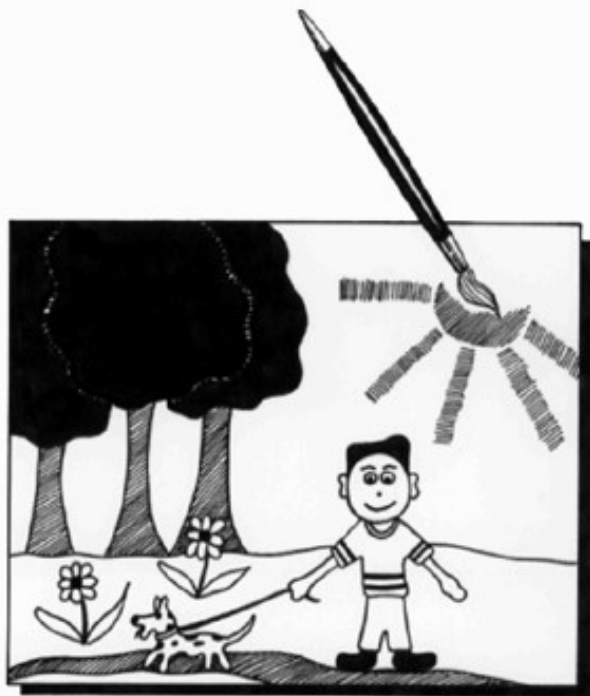
## Materials:

large white paper (or paper grocery bag), markers, pictures of cave art, paintings of people doing ordinary things

**Standards:** 2, 3, and 4

**Concepts:** Color

**Level:** Grades 1–3



## Procedure:

Tell your child that people of all times and cultures have expressed themselves through art. Explain that genre (jon-ra) painting depicts scenes from daily life. The earliest genre paintings are cave paintings of hunters and their prey. Show your child pictures of cave paintings, Egyptian tomb paintings, and easel paintings that depict scenes of daily life, such as *The Gleaners* in *JumpStart Artist*. Then have her draw a genre picture in pencil and add colored marker for the finishing touch. When the picture is finished, ask your child to tell you about it.

## Extension:

Introduce your child to the life and work of Rembrandt, Watteau, Vermeer, and Grant Wood (*American Gothic*). Find out how your child feels about their paintings, and talk about what they reveal about the lives of the people portrayed.

## Just for Kids:

Genre (jon-ra) pictures depict ordinary people doing ordinary things. The oldest known genre paintings are cave paintings, which show ancient people and the animals they hunted. You can make a genre picture by drawing an event in your own life, such as eating breakfast, walking the dog, or playing ball.

## Resources:

[www.art.com](http://www.art.com)

[www.artchive.com](http://www.artchive.com)

